Application No. 09/833,282 **Art Unit: 2839**
Docket No.: Haleos 2001-124 **Examiner: Michael C. Zarroli**

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows.

1. (Previously presented): A fiber optic array switch comprising:

first and second substrates, each substrate comprising:

a front and an opposing rear face, the front faces of each substrate disposed in facing relation to one another;

at least one fiber-retaining channel disposed in each substrate extending from the front face to the rear face; and

at least a first groove disposed along a longitudinal axis within the front face; and

at least one friction reducing element disposed within the first grooves of the first and second substrates, so that the first substrate may translate with respect to the second substrate along the direction of the longitudinal axis of the groove of the first substrate.

2. (Original): The switch according to claim 1 wherein the grooves are in registration.

3. (Original): The switch according to claim 1 wherein the grooves have the same length.

4. (Canceled.)

5. (Original): The switch according to claim 1 wherein at least one groove of the first substrate is dimensioned to match a selected dimension of the friction reducing element so that the friction reducing element is confined within the groove of the first substrate.

6. (Original): The switch according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the grooves comprises at least one detent dimensioned to at least temporarily retain the friction reducing element at a selected position.

66. (Original): The switch according to claim 65 wherein the first array includes a frame and a passageway through the frame and wherein the chip is insertable into the passageway of the first array.

67. (Original): The switch according to claim 63 wherein the first array includes a frame and a passageway through the fame and wherein the first array includes grooves in the passageway to provide the fiber channels.

68. (Original): The switch according to claim 67 comprising a chip insertable into the passageway to hold the fiber in the fiber channels.

69. (Original): The switch according to claim 67 wherein the first array comprises a chip having chip grooves formed therein, the chip being insertable into the passageway so that the chip grooves may register with the grooves of the passageway to provide the fiber channels.

70. (Original): The switch according to claim 64 wherein the first array includes a frame and a passageway through the frame and wherein the first array includes a chip insertable into the passageway to hold fibers in the fiber channels and wherein the first array includes a probe on at least one of the passageway and the chip and a complementary socket on at least the other of the passageway and the chip for registering the chip within the passageway.

71. (Original): The switch according to claim 64 wherein the fiber channels of the first array comprise a two-dimensional array of channels.

72. (Original): The switch according to claim 71 wherein the two-dimensional array of channels comprises a plurality of linear arrays of channels arranged to form the two-dimensional array.

73. (Original): The switch according to claim 39 wherein the roller element is substantially spherical.

74. (Original): The switch according to claim 39 wherein the roller element is cylindrical.

75. (Original): The switch according to claim 39 comprising optical fibers disposed within the first array.

76. (Original): The switch according to claim 39 wherein the first array holds at least one optical fiber.